

Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: Michael Callagy, County Executive Officer
Subject: Confirmation of Tory Newman as Director of Public Works (Unclassified) and Designation of Krzysztof Lisaj as the County Engineer and Roads Commissioner

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to:

- A) Confirm Tory Newman as Director of Public Works (Unclassified); and
- B) Adopt a resolution designating Krzysztof Lisaj as the County Engineer and Roads Commissioner, to serve as the Director of Public Works' duly qualified representative in those roles.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The County conducted a nationwide recruitment for the position of Director of Public Works (Unclassified). Mr. Newman has been nominated by the County Executive Officer as the most qualified candidate based on nearly 19 years of progressively responsible experience in San Mateo County public works administration and his strong understanding of the full range of public works issues, practices, policies, and emerging trends.

Mr. Newman most recently served as Deputy Director of Public Works – Facilities for the County of San Mateo, where he oversaw five functional divisions and ensured effective day-to-day operations while planning and delivering capital and maintenance programs that advance County priorities. Prior to this role, Mr. Newman served as a Senior Capital Projects Manager with the County.

Mr. Newman brings extensive leadership experience and is well positioned to lead the County's efforts to shape long-range infrastructure strategies, ensure regulatory compliance, and promote sustainability. He has demonstrated a strong ability to foster collaboration across County departments, communities, and partner agencies while leading a talented workforce and stewarding complex operations.

The County Charter requires the Board of Supervisors to confirm appointments of Department heads nominated by the County Executive Officer.

Additionally, the Department of Public Works is required to designate a civil engineer as the Director of Public Works' duly qualified representative to serve as the Roads Commissioner and County Engineer. The Department is recommending that Krzysztof Lisaj, a licensed civil engineer employed in the Department of Public Works, be designated as the Roads Commissioner and County Engineer effective March 30, 2026.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The compensation and benefits for this position are set forth in the County's Resolution establishing the salary and benefits for the unrepresented Management Employees of the County and the Master Salary Resolution approved by this Board.